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J.D.A. DOCKET ROOM
June 17, 2004

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Hon. Deborah Taylor Tate, Chairman
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37238

Re: *Generic Docket Addressing Rural Universal Service*
Docket No. 00-00523

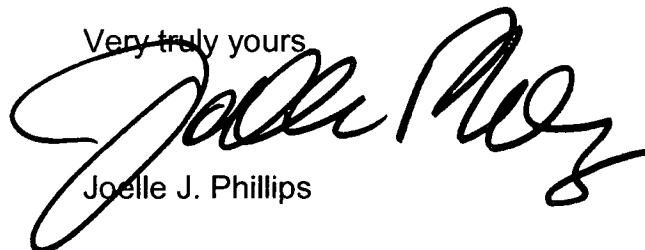
Dear Chairman Tate:

BellSouth files this letter in response to the letter filed on behalf of the Rural Independent Coalition ("ICOs") in the above-referenced docket. The ICOs have asked that the argument set for June 21 be delayed until the next regularly-scheduled Agenda Conference on July 26.

I have spoken with counsel for the ICOs regarding this request. I understand from counsel for the ICOs that this request to delay the oral argument is not a request to alter, in any fashion, the stay that the panel imposed by their vote on Monday, May 24. Based on counsel's representation that this request for rescheduling would in no way affect the stay currently in place, BellSouth has no objection to the rescheduling of argument on this matter to July 26 in order to accommodate the scheduling needs of the ICOs' counsel.

A copy of this letter has been provided to counsel of record

Very truly yours



Joelle J. Phillips

JP:ch

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on June 17, 2004, a copy of the foregoing document was served on the parties of record, via the method indicated.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Woods", is written over a horizontal line.